

Networking Centres for Gender in Higher Education



Friday 5 March 2010, 4-5.30 pm
10th floor, Church Centre, New York

This event will be composed of a panel of experts involved in university Gender/ Women's Studies Centres in Africa, Asia and the Pacific who are networking with each other and with centres in the North to achieve MDG3. University centres or faculties will share experiences, positive and negative, about the contribution of such centres to promoting access to and the advancement of women in higher education in their countries. What are their individual agendas? How important is networking? Who provides support? What circumstances have led to their success and recognition?

Chairperson

- ▶ **Prof Shirley RANDELL** AM, PhD, Director, Centre for Gender, Culture and Development, Kigali Institute of Education, Rwanda, Vice President International Federation for University Women (IFUW), Convener for International Relations, Rwanda Association of University Women (RAUW)

Panel Members

- ▶ **Justine MBABAZI, Esq**, Convener Scholarships and Awards Committee, RAUW: *"The growth of gender centres in Africa: how they may serve as empowerment tools for the African continent"*
- ▶ **Prof Nazmunnessa MAHTAB**, PhD, Chairperson, Department of Women's Studies, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, Member, Bangladesh Association of University Women: *"Gender Studies Network In Asia: Advancement of Women in Decision Making In Universities"*
- ▶ **Prof Jennifer FISH**, PhD, Head of Women's Studies, Old Dominion University, Virginia, USA, Member RAUW: *"Linking resources through shared curriculum development, joint research studies and student and staff education through North/South agreements"*
- ▶ **Dr Alice Siqin YANG**, Assistant Director of Global Education, Center for Women's InterCultural Leadership, China: *"The development and networking of gender/ women's studies centers in China"*

Respondents from the floor include

- ▶ **Ambassador Salma KHAN**, President, Women for Women Research and Study Group, Bangladesh
- ▶ **Ms Leena-Maija LAUREN**, Convener for International Relations, Finnish Federation of University Women, Finland

Process

Panel members will each speak for up to 7 minutes on exploring one or two of the following issues:

- ▶ Description of centres for gender/women's studies, academic and research programs, agreements with other centres, participation in networks, success in contributing to promoting access to and the advancement of women in higher education in their countries, and lessons to be learned
- ▶ Strengthening networking between such centres
- ▶ Proposing best practice on the issues